



LEADER LINE

I Make Lists. Therefore I am, 1)...



There are those who 1) make lists. There are those who 2) make to-do lists. There are I suppose 3) those who do both. Just as I'm sure there are those who 4) don't make lists at all. Or 5) those who only do bulleted lists — presumably for fear of creating a hierarchical class system for grocery shopping.

We make lists to control chaos — or worse. As the Italian novelist and philosopher Umberto Eco teaches us, "We like lists because we don't want to die."

Such a relief.

But for those of us who don't want to die, list-making can help us get things done before we die.

Next Meeting
MAY 14

Dinner
Program

6:30 PM
7:30 PM

Tower Lanes
6323 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

LEADER LINE (continued)

As fishers, we create bucket lists to fulfill our desire for disappointment. These are referred to as “check lists.”

Our quandaries are a) “Should I number my checklists” or b) “Is it better to make a numbered checklist in order of priority” or c) as a build-up such as “1) Catch a bluegill” — all the way to “100) Catch a Super Grand Slam in the Seychelles using 7X tippet”?

Do lists need to be numbered? Alphabetized? Sometimes. While adding another tier of order, fancy lists can provide a level of drama. Example: “Three ducks walked into a bar ...” You can’t wait to find out what that darn Duck No.3 is going to do, can you?

If, by chance, you’re still reading this, I’d like to share a list discovered on YouTube: “Hi, I’m Ben and I’m a huge fly-fisherman!” As the Isaac Walton of “I Suck at Fly-Fishing” *chotskies*, Ben Sittig posted a video outlining:

The 5 Stages of Fly-Fishing.

Stage 1: I just want to catch my first fish.

Stage 2: I want to catch *more* fish.

Stage 3: I want to catch bigger fish (or *more* bigger fish).

Stage 4: I want fish that are really hard to catch (so I can brag).

Stage 5: I realize it’s not about catching fish. It’s about enjoying the experience.

All very tidy, aspirational, leading you up a chain of progressively happy endings. But being a true *piscator magnificus*, I want more. I want it all. *Magnifice avarus piscator*. Why limit oneself? Why not compress Stages 1-5 all into one day? Or one hour? My arms ache just thinking about it.

With such a list, why not apply a bit of creative listology? Example:

Stage 4: I want fish that are really hard to catch (so I can brag).

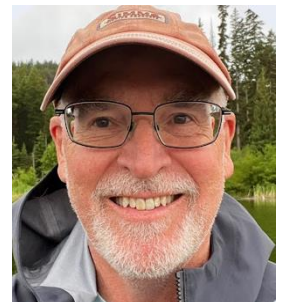
So I can take a hero picture with said beast.

So I can star in a major motion picture conquering the rare and elusive creature.

And win the Oscar.

You get the idea. Dream large. Without such lists, what am I?

Just a boy wading in front of a fish ... dangling a Perdigon.



David Frazier
President

Are You Ready?

Ask not what your club can do for you, ask what you can do for your club. Have you ever thought about taking the next step in your involvement in PSFF? Consider one of several leadership positions that come open from time to time. Ask around. Volunteers agree they get as much if not more out of their positions as they put in.

Let’s talk!

By the end of this year, PSFF will have key committee chair vacancies that provide so much for its members: Outings Chair, Newsletter Editor and 1st year Director. To learn more about these opportunities, go to PSFF.org and click “More” at the top of the home screen. Select “Roles and Responsibilities,” which provides a list of PDFs that outline the duties. Or click **HERE**.

- David Frazier

PROGRAMS

JASON PLANKE

Jason will be sharing his knowledge of fishing the Cedar River, a river he has fished extensively for many years and describes as “such an amazing river right in our backyard”. He loves the Cedar River so much that he named his dog Cedar.



His Cedar River Presentation covers the history of the river, fishing access, how to read the water, and how the river changes during the 3 months that it is open. He will present different fishing tactics to find fish on the Cedar, what to expect while you are on the river, fly patterns, and many other topics for this unique fishery in the heart of the greater Seattle metropolitan area.

Jason grew up in upstate NY fly fishing the waters of the Catskills and Adirondacks for wild trout. He started flyfishing around 8 years old and began tying flies before he even knew how to fly fish. He was an early adopter of fly fishing on the Salmon River for steelhead and salmon.

Jason moved to Seattle in 1999 and worked as an Environmental Consultant during the day and worked at Orvis on nights and on weekends. Currently, he guides for Emerald Water Anglers in West Seattle. He guides on the Puget Sound for Searun Cutthroat, and the Olympic Peninsula and "S" Rivers for Steelhead. In the summer months, he'll be chasing trout on the Cedar River.



*Tim McKey
Programs*

FROM OUR LIBRARIAN

May Theme: Fly Tying

For the May meeting the library will feature books detailing fly patterns and tying instructions so you can fill up those fly boxes. As always, you can look at the library spreadsheet on the web site ([HERE](#)) and reserve ahead of time any title that you would like to check out.

Please remember the library guidelines:

- Check-out privileges are for members only.
- Please fill out the library card with your name & date and drop the card in the “catch and release” basket.
- Books are due two months after the check-out date.



*Tom Krughoff
Librarian*

RAFFLES

May's raffle will have - what else - Mayflies!!! There will also be several chances for lake fishing lures. You'll have a chance for flippers and boots. If you have a Sage rod - you need a Sage cap! Tying - we have dozens of spools and an awesome storage for them.



*Fred Olin
Raffles*

OUTINGS

Lake Kokanee Outing

Wednesday May 20th - 9 AM Mason County

Greetings Members! Fish are jumping, sipping and eating bugs this spring just in time for our next club outing at Lake Kokanee in Mason County on **Wednesday May 20**. I plan to be on the water by 9 AM, come when you can. This 103 acre lake has one boat launch for public use.

DIRECTIONS

Shore fishing is limited so you will need a floatation device to access the lake.

The word from club members indicates the fishing is pretty good for rainbows and kokanees.



What flies? I'm learning to bring a variety, you just never know what the trout will key into. What lines? If you can bring different types, like intermediate, floating and full sink you should be covered! It seems like that has been the case the last 2 lake outings I have attended!

[WDFW link](#) to lake information.

I hope to see you there!

Regards,



*Julie Kelner
Outings*

2026 PSFF OUTINGS CALENDAR

MAY

LAKE KOKANEE

Wednesday, May 20
Hoodsport, Mason County

JUNE

GREEN RIVER

Tuesday, June 23
King County

JULY

NACHES RIVER

Saturday-Sunday, July 18-19

AUGUST

PSFF ANNUAL PICNIC

Saturday, August 15

DOSEWALLIP RIVER

Tuesday, August 18

SEPTEMBER

PACKWOOD AREA @ LA WIS WIS CAMPGROUND

Saturday, September 19
Colwitz River, Ohanapecosh River, Leech Lake

OCTOBER

TBA

Details to come

NOVEMBER

BLACK FRIDAY LAKE FISHING

Friday, November 27
Location announced pending WDFW stocking report

DECEMBER

FLASH OUTING

Details to come



CONSERVATION

Welcome to spring! The waters are getting warmer and the fish are more active, this is one of the best times of the year for NW fly fishing.

Rather than list individual volunteer options this month I am going to provide links to volunteer websites of several local organizations for you to peruse at your leisure if you have an interest in helping out:

[Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group](#)

[Nisqually Stream Stewards](#)

[Nisqually Land Trust](#)

[Pierce Conservation District](#)

This month I'd like to highlight the [Washington Council of Trout Unlimited](#). This is part of TU takes a statewide approach to conservation in concert with the various local TU chapters.

Our Mission

The Washington Council of Trout Unlimited is dedicated to the protection, reconnection, and restoration of Washington's watersheds and the ecosystems which sustain our salmon, steelhead, and trout. We embody [Trout Unlimited's](#) nationwide efforts here, relying on their guidance, support, and leadership to ensure our home waters are preserved for generations to come.

The Council promotes effective stream, river, and fisheries management decisions by:

1. Restoring rivers and streams to their natural state by working with landowners and irrigation districts to improve and replace existing systems.
2. Assessing and prioritizing the removal of barriers and obstructions which block fish passage.
3. Raising funds for the completion of habitat restoration and barrier removal projects.
4. Actively building relationships and being the voice for our fish in our state's politics.
5. Providing education and a foundation for our youth to protect and enjoy the outdoors.
6. Creating an inclusive, diverse, welcoming environment for all members to appreciate and support the conservation of our unique ecosystems throughout Washington state.

I encourage you to take a few minutes and look at the [conservation](#) portion of their website. I like their simple definition of conservation:



“Conservation is defined as the prevention of wasteful use of a resource and the preservation, protection, or restoration of the natural environment and of wildlife.”

They describe a number of completed and active projects supported by TU across the state. As with most of our NW conservation organizations, they strive to make it easy to get involved and make a difference. For more information, sign up on their [“Every River Needs a Champion” website](#).



*Steve Knowles
Conservation*

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to May 2026

Membership Renewal

Be watching your email for a renewal of your membership to PSFF. The subject line will read "Plan Ordered". The message will say that "You've Ordered Yearly Renewal Plan" and

Plan Price: \$xx.xx

Plan Starts: date

Valid Until: date

You can renew from the home page of the PSFF website, scroll to the bottom three blue panels, select the middle panel – join now, once on the next page, complete the membership application form and click on the submit and pay button at the bottom of the page. OR, you can log into your membership portal and click on "My Subscriptions".

New Members

Our membership is currently at 125 members. We continue to see new members join PSFF. Please reach out and welcome Steven Bisig, Dean Ferrel and Jon Fleury at the next meeting or outing they attend.

JON FLEURY

I grew up in Shoreline, WA and began fly fishing during summer trips to the Methow River and Hood Canal. I moved to Missoula, MT for college, continuing to fish as much as



possible, resulting in five years to complete a four-year degree. After retiring from the military, I started my second career as a stay-at-home Dad in Kitsap County. I am getting reacquainted with fly fishing and really enjoying all the lakes and beaches of the South Sound.

STEVEN BISIG

I have fished most of my life but have only been fly fishing for a month. I did fish Tenkara this past summer which got me more interested in fly fishing with most of my focus and learning initially targeting coastal cutthroat since I live so close to the Puget Sound. I have been marketing outdoor gear, overlanding gear and automotive after- marketing performance products for 25 years. In addition, I also am a part-time professional sports photographer.



Other Membership Items

The complete summary of the 2025 member survey can now be found on the member section of the PSFF website under the membership group. Click on Files and look for 2025 Member Survey.

MEMBERSHIP (continued)

Are you wanting to learn about how to best navigate our PSFF.org website and use the groups section to communicate with other members? A tutorial, called Website Orientation, is available under Files in the Membership group. If you would like to schedule a zoom session with the membership chair, Joe Harrison, for a tour of the website, send me a message at jjmmkk@comcast.net.



*Joe Harrison
Membership*

May Anniversaries/Years

Mark Vary	1	Fred Brantner	1
Paul Hollister	1	Dennis Beardsley	14

EDUCATION

Fly Tying

On **May 16 at 9:00AM** in the small room at Tower Lanes, Steve Saville will be teaching how to tie Rickards Stillwater Nymphs. This is a versatile, suggestive fly pattern designed for lakes to imitate damselflies, dragonflies, shrimp, or leeches. Known for its effectiveness in catching trophy trout, it features a marabou tail, dubbed body, and palmered hackle (often grizzly dyed orange) trimmed for a distinct silhouette.



Casting

There will be a joint casting session with SSFF (South Sound Fly Fishers) on **Saturday, Sept 12 at 10:00AM** at Tumwater Historical Park, (802 Deschutes Way SW, Tumwater, WA 98501). This session will be open to all who want to work on their casting technique, even if you are not interested in the FCSD program.

New Fly-Fishing Education Hub

There is newly established Fly-Fishing Education Hub Group on our website. There you will find links to an archive of outings information sheets, the complete course material for the beginning fly fishing class, useful links to education resources, and copies of previous club presentations. Check it out!



*Rob Jensen
Education*

WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL OF FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

WSCFFI Fly Casting Fair a Success

Sunday, April 19 saw an enthusiastic crowd of fly anglers attend the WSCFFI Fly Casting Fair at Pickering Barn, Issaquah. A wide variety of classes were offered including Beginner, Intermediate and Advance fly casting, the Fly Casting Skills Development program wherein participants could achieve Bronze, Silver or Gold level status. Master CI Molly Seminick hosted a special Distance Casting activity - an essential skill for us Puget Sound anglers trying to reach those elusive resident coho from the beach who always seem to be just out of range of our best cast.

A special class for teens was offered inside the barn itself along with a selection of fly tiers dedicated to help visitors with problems they encounter when tying at home. A variety of exhibitors filled out the event sharing their efforts at conservation, supporting special groups or enhancing local fisheries resources.

World champion caster Maxine McCormick stunned the crowd with her skills at both accuracy and distance. Watching her rocket launch a cast with a 10" tight loop was beyond impressive. She also gave the viewers advice on proper grip of the rod, wide versus open stance, the need to shift weight for maximum efficiency, described when to change rod trajectory of the forward and back cast, sighting for accuracy and finished with a 130' cast using a 5 weight rod and line - a typical set up for trout fishing. Needless to say she wowed the crowd.

If you are not a FFI member consider joining. Their website has a tremendous wealth of educational videos, fly tying examples, reviews of gear and lots more. Visit flyfishersinternational.org and browse the site. Joining is as simple as a few clicks and you are on your way.

Fly Casting Skills Development

South Sound Fly Fishers will be offering a FCSD program **September 12, 2026** at Tumwater Historical Park, 802 Deschutes Way, Tumwater, WA. Participants can earn a Bronze, Silver or Gold award after completing the exercise. To understand the skills required at each level visit flyfishersinternational.org select "Fly Casting Education" followed by "Casting Skills Programs".

The goal of the FCSD program is to help you be a better caster and is not the same as the Certified Casting Instructor program. We all know how better casts catch more fish so if you would like to enhance your casting skills show up and take the challenges.

SSFF also requests volunteer help from PSFF members to score at each of the event levels. If you can volunteer contact Murray Boulware at privatepilot1990@gmail.com. Volunteers should arrive at 7:00 am for set-up. Participants arrive at 9:30 for casting. Bring a 5 or 6 weight rod with reel and floating line, an 8' 10-15 pound yarn tipped leader.



Mike Koslosky
WSCFFI Membership Director
membership@WSCFFI.org

WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL OF FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS (continued)

Fly Fishing International (FFI), WSCFFI & SSFF Events for 2026

Women Connect Missouri River Rendezvous

May 22-24

Craig, MT

Join FFI Women Connect for a weekend of fly fishing and social events on the Missouri River. This two-day event will be hosted by guide Trisha Campbell and WSCFFI Director Marion Hiller. Both are FFI Casting Instructors. For details, go [HERE](#). This is a free event, but you do need to reserve a spot if you wish to attend.

NW Youth Conservation and Fishing Academy

June 20-27

Panhandle Lake, Shelton, WA

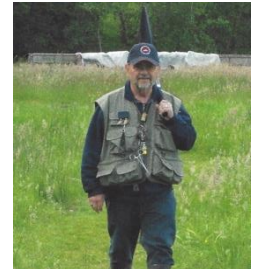
The Academy is a week of fly casting, fly tying, fishing in Panhandle's private/stocked lake, and casting to Cutthroats in local streams and rivers. The Academy is full, and includes 3 young ladies this year.

The Fly Shop Presents FLYFEST 2026

September 24-26

Redding, CA

Registration is now open. FlyFest offers three full days of educational presentations, fly-tying and casting demos, a trade show, and time set aside for fly fishing, food and fellowship, all under one roof and covered by a single registration fee. More info [HERE](#).



*Mike Clancy
Legislation & FFI*

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Vice President	Rob Jensen
Past President	Tess Frazier
Secretary	Anne Stiffler
Treasurer	Dennis Beardsley
Director, 1 st year	Ted Dryer
Director, 2 nd year	Mark Paul
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Outings	Julie Kelner
Programs	Tim McKey
Raffles	Fred Olin
Website	Jason Hardt
WSCFFI	Mike Koslosky

Puget Sound Fly-Fishers is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization which can accept donations and bequeaths.

Consider including PSFF in your estate planning to invest in future generations of fly fishers, with our thanks.